

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 633

By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Trooper Dwayne Michael Stanford upon being named the 2011 Trooper of the Year by the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal concerns to ensure the public safety and welfare, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty in service of public safety; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued the time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in law enforcement, dedicating their time and efforts to aiding those in emergency situations and apprehending those who have broken the law; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Dwayne Michael Stanford is one such courageous public servant who was named the 2011 Trooper of the Year by the Tennessee Highway Patrol, marking the second consecutive year Trooper Stanford has earned this prestigious honor; and

WHEREAS, a third generation State Trooper, he is the grandson of Pat Stanford, who has served with acumen and alacrity as a dispatcher for Hardin County E-911 and an employee at the local sheriff's department, and her husband, Leon Stanford, who rendered sterling service as a state trooper for many years before taking a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Stanford began his illustrious career in law enforcement as a Communications Dispatcher with the Department of Safety and Homeland Security in 2002 and was later commissioned a State Trooper in 2007; and

WHEREAS, highly respected by his colleagues and the public alike, Dwayne Stanford is often described as one of the most trusted, reliable, and focused troopers in the state; and

WHEREAS, renowned for his ability to handle even the most dangerous situations with professionalism and aplomb, he has been instrumental in the arrests of suspects involved in armed robbery, aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer, possible terrorism, home invasion, and possession of stolen guns and stolen vehicles; and

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2011, during a routine traffic stop, Trooper Stanford was shot in the chest by the vehicle's passenger; maintaining his composure, he returned fire, successfully defending himself and protecting the public; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Dwayne Stanford earned the 2010 Trooper of the Year honor after successfully locating a juvenile who was kidnapped out of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Stanford epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean, and his professionalism and dedication are evident to all who know him; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people such as Trooper Stanford who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Trooper Dwayne Stanford for his for his many contributions to the good people of Tennessee, his unwavering commitment to others, and his astute leadership in the Tennessee Highway Patrol; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Trooper Dwayne Michael Stanford upon being named the 2011 Trooper of the Year by the Tennessee Highway Patrol, thank him for his meritorious service to the citizens of the State of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.